(a) whether the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has recently conducted a survey into the functioning of foreign universities and such institutes, which do not have accreditation;

(b) if so, what are its findings; and

(c) what punitive measures are being taken to make them more accountable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Explanation by SC on misuse of funds under ICDS

†612. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has called for explanation from Government for spending crores of rupees on the Integrated Child Development Scheme every year;

(b) if so, the information provided by Government to the Supreme Court in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that after spending 85 per cent of funds on infrastructure and on the salaries of the employees,' only 15 per cent amount reaches to the real beneficiaries; and

(d) if so, the details of action taken by Government to check the misuse of Government funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, in a Public Interest Litigation (PIL), the Hon'ble Supreme Court has passed directions regarding implementation of certain welfare schemes of the Government. For Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, the Supreme Court has directed that supplementary nutrition may be provided to all beneficiaries as per nutrition norms of the Scheme.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is the world's largest community based child development prgramme which aims at holistic development of children (0-6 years) and pregnant & lactating mothers from disadvantaged sections by providing a package of services comprising of supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-up, referral services, pre-school non-formal education and nutrition & health education. Currently, services under the Scheme are being provided to about 388 lakh beneficiaries, comprising of about 322 lakh children below 6 years and about 66 lakh pregnant & lactating mothers through a network of about 6 lakh Anganwadi Centres.

ICDS is a Centrally-sponsored Scheme, wherein the Central Government is responsible for programme planning & operating costs and the State Governments are responsible for implementation of the Scheme and for providing supplementary nutrition out of States
resources.

(c) and (d) It is not correct to say that 85 per cent of funds under the ICDS Scheme are spent on infrastructure and salaries of the employees and only 15 per cent of the amount reaches to the real beneficiaries. In the year 2001 -02, the latest year for which details of Central and States' expenditure are available, the expenditure on infrastructure and salary was about Rs. 1376 crore, whereas medicine kits, pre-school education kits and supplementary nutrition of the order of about Rs. 1910 crore were provided to the beneficiaries. In addition, Anganwadi Centres also provided health check-up & referral services, pre-school education and nutrition & health education to children and pregnant & lactating mothers, for which no value can be assessed in monetary terms.

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†613. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRIMOTILALVORA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: